

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 306542
ORIGIN PM-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 SIG-01 SS-15 NSCE-00
ACDA-12 DODE-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 INRE-00
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DRAFTED BY PM/ISP:LFINCH
APPROVED BY EUR/RPM:WSHINN, JR.
EUR/NE:CSCHALLER (SUBS)
-----006865 232242Z /66

O 232201Z DEC 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY DUBLIN IMMEDIATE
INFO AMEMBASSY MOSCOW IMMEDIATE
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION GENEVA

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 306542

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MPOL, PINS, ELAB, EI

SUBJECT: SOVIET PROTEST ON NEUTRON BOMB

REF: DUBLIN 2924

EMBASSY MAY DRAW ON FOLLOWING TALKING POINTS IN RESPONSE TO
SOVIET ALLEGATIONS ON THE NEUTRON BOMB:
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-- THE US HAS MADE NO DECISION YET ON WHETHER TO PROCEED
WITH THE NEUTRON WARHEAD. WE ARE CONTINUING OUR DELIBERA-
TIONS ON THIS ISSUE IN CONSULTATION WITH OUR ALLIES.

-- WHILE NO NUCLEAR WEAPONS-- OURS OR THE SOVIETS'-- CAN
BE TERMED HUMANE, A CASE COULD BE MADE THAT THE NEUTRON

BOMB IS ACTUALLY MORE HUMANE THAN EXISTING NUCLEAR WEAPONS.
IT IS SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED TO HAVE EFFECTIVENESS AGAINST
ARMORED FORCES EQUAL TO EXISTING WEAPONS, WHILE AT THE
SAME TIME REDUCING THE ADVERSE EFFECTS TO THE CIVILIAN
POPULATION. A CASE COULD BE MADE THAT THE SOVIETS, BY NOT
EMPLOYING ENHANCED RADIATION WEAPONS IN THEIR NUCLEAR
FORCES, WERE ACTUALLY THEMSELVES LESS HUMANE.

-- AS NEUTRON BOMBS DIFFER IN NO SIGNIFICANT RESPECT FROM
EXISTING NUCLEAR WEAPONS-- WEAPONS WHICH THE SOVIETS ALSO

HAVE IN THEIR ARSENAL-- THEY WOULD BE CONSISTENT WITH ANY
INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS TO WHICH WE ARE A PARTY. IF
THE SOVIETS ACCUSE US OF SUCH VIOLATIONS, THEY THEMSELVES
AS POSSESSORS OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS MUST BE GUILTY AS WELL.

-- CONCERNING ESCALATION OF THE ARMS RACE, THE SOVIETS
HAVE PRESSED LARGE SCALE BUILDUPS IN THEIR ARMOR FORCES
WHICH THREATEN OUR EUROPEAN FRIENDS AND ALLIES. IT IS TO
THEIR ESCALATION OF THE ARMS RACE THAT THE NEUTRON WAR-
HEAD, IF WE DECIDE TO EMPLOY IT, WOULD BE A RESPONSE--
A RESPONSE NECESSARY TO PROTECT THOSE WHOSE SECURITY
RELIES ON THE STRENGTH OF US AND NATO FORCES.

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PAGE 01 STATE 306542
ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-05 /018 R

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DRAFTED BY:EUR:NE:CWSCHALLER
APPROVED BY:EUR:NE:RLFUNSETH
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INFO RUDKHLQ/AMEMBASSY HELSINKI 1875

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 306542

FOLLOWING TELEGRAM FROM SECSTATE WASHDC DATED DECEMBER 23,
1977 SENT DUBLIN INFO MOSCOW, USNATO, BONN, BRUSSELS,
COPENHAGEN, LONDON, LUXEMBOURG, PARIS, ROME, THE HAGUE,
GENEVA IS REPEATED TO YOU: QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 306542

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
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Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PROTESTS, NUCLEAR BOMBS, ALLEGATIONS, NUCLEAR WARHEADS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 23-Dec-1977 12:00:00 am
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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Litigation History:
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Subject: SOVIET PROTEST ON NEUTRON BOMB
TAGS: MPOL, PINS, ELAB, EI
To: DUBLIN
Type: TE
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